

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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For Immediate Release

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Tacoma's African American Museum to Recognize State Patrol Officers for Significant Accomplishments in 2003

The Tacoma African American Museum will honor State Patrol Sergeant Monica A. Hunter and Trooper Elliott R. George for outstanding achievements while serving the citizens of the state of Washington. Acknowledgment of the officers' achievements will be accepted into the museum.

In October 2003, Sergeant Monica A. Hunter became the first African American woman to achieve the rank of sergeant in the history of the Washington State Patrol (WSP). Trooper Elliott R. George is the first African American WSP officer to be nominated for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Award for his life-saving efforts in rescuing a driver from a burning automobile at a collision scene on August 5, 2002. Trooper George was the runner up for the IACP Award; however, he received the 2002 Mountain Pacific Region – Trooper of the Year Award.

The Tacoma African American Museum will honor Sergeant Hunter and Trooper George with plaques and announce acceptance of their significant accomplishments to be displayed in the museum. Representative Johnny R. Lovick, also a Washington State Patrol sergeant, will be the keynote speaker for the event.

The WSP is proud of the women and men chosen to represent the agency in serving the citizens of this state and welcomes the media to attend this prestigious ceremony.

The event will be held at the African American Museum located at 925 Court 'C' Street, in Tacoma, at 6 p.m. on May 6th. Dr. Shirl Gilbert, the Museum Interim Executive Director, can be reached at (253) 468-2982 to answer questions reference the museum.

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